

RADIOSONDE STATION

*Exchange of notes at Havana July 17, and August 2, 1944, with
memorandum agreement
Entered into force August 2, 1944
Expired June 30, 1947*

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The American Ambassador to the Cuban Secretary of State

EMBASSY OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
Habana, July 17, 1944

No. 632

EXCELLENCY:

I have the honor to inform Your Excellency that preliminary discussions have taken place between representatives of the United States Weather Bureau, Department of Commerce, and the Cuban Meteorological Service regarding the cooperative establishment and operation of a radiosonde station in Cuba to be located in the vicinity of Habana.

Since that time Dr. F. W. Reichelderfer, Chief of the Weather Bureau, has corresponded with Dr. José Carlos Millás, Director of the Cuban Meteorological Service, on the subject, and my Government is informed that as a result the Weather Bureau and the Cuban Meteorological Service have agreed in principle that it would be desirable for their respective governments to cooperate in the establishment and operation of this station.

Funds have now been appropriated by the Congress of the United States of America to enable the Weather Bureau to proceed with the project under the program of the Interdepartmental Committee on Cooperation with the American Republics. To that end I have the honor to enclose, at the instance of my Government, a Memorandum Agreement setting forth in detail the conditions under which the Weather Bureau proposes to cooperate with the Cuban Meteorological Service in the establishment and operation of the station.

My Government has already established a network of radiosonde observation stations in the United States, the West Indies, Mexico, and the Canal Zone, and feels that establishment of a station in Cuba would fill a gap in the network. Radiosonde observations are needed for the protection of military

and commercial aircraft operating in this area, and also to provide advance information on destructive hurricanes that threaten civilian and military installations located in the region of the Caribbean Sea and Gulf of Mexico.

Therefore, as in the opinion of my Government this information is of vital importance to both countries, it trusts that the Cuban Government may give the enclosed Memorandum Agreement its urgent consideration and inform it at the earliest possible date whether it finds its contents acceptable.

For your Excellency's information, a representative of the Cuban Meteorological Service, Lt. Louis Larragoiti Alonzo, is now in the United States to receive training in the observational techniques of radiosonde and that Service is prepared to inaugurate the program as soon as the necessary cooperative agreement can be effected.

I have the honor to avail myself of this opportunity to extend to Your Excellency the renewed assurances of my highest consideration.

SPRUILLE BRADEN

His Excellency

Dr. JORGE MAÑACH,
Minister of State,
Habana.

MEMORANDUM AGREEMENT

In accordance with recent correspondence between Dr. F. W. Reichelderfer, Chief of the United States Weather Bureau, and Dr. José Carlos Millás, Director of the Cuban Meteorological Service, and previous conversations between representatives of the two organizations, the Government of the United States, through the Weather Bureau, now proposes to cooperate with the Government of Cuba, through the Cuban Meteorological Service, in organizing the regular exchange of meteorological data, subject to the following understanding:

1. To cooperate in the establishment and operation of a radiosonde observation station in Cuba, to be located at Habana; and
2. To provide for the daily exchange of upper-air weather observations between the United States Weather Bureau and the Cuban Meteorological Service for the use of each country, especially in serving the needs of aviation, and to render it possible for the Government of the United States and the Government of Cuba to assist in the development of an exchange of weather information, forecasts, and warnings.

To attain the foregoing objectives, the United States Weather Bureau agrees to:

- (a) Provide and install the ground equipment necessary for making radiosonde observations at the station and pay the cost of necessary repairs.

(b) Authorize one of its technicians to visit the observation station to repair the ground equipment, whenever such equipment becomes inoperative and repairs cannot be made locally;

(c) Provide the necessary radiosondes, balloons, parachutes, helium gas, meteorological forms and other accessories required for the observations; and

(d) Provide balloon inflation shelter, if necessary.

The Government of Cuba, through the Cuban Meteorological Service, agrees to:

(a) Assign a minimum of one observer and one assistant at the station for the purpose of making daily observations in accordance with standard practice and procedure;

(b) Supply the necessary office quarters and office equipment, including heat, light, and electric power;

(c) Provide adequate ground space for the balloon inflation shelter, as may be necessary;

(d) Arrange for the prompt transmission of the radiosonde observation reports made pursuant to this agreement to a point in the United States to be designated by the United States Weather Bureau; and

(e) Make available the recorder records to the United States Weather Bureau for reference purposes, and to supply that Bureau with copies of the Weather Bureau forms which will be used for all radiosonde observations made at the station.

I. The total amount to be expended by the United States shall not exceed eighteen thousand, two hundred forty dollars (\$18,240) during the fiscal year ending June 30, 1945. All expenditures incurred by the Weather Bureau shall be paid direct by that organization and all expenditures incident to the obligations assumed by the Government of Cuba shall be paid direct by that Government.

II. Title to all property supplied by the Cuban Government shall remain vested in that Government, and likewise the title to all property supplied by the Government of the United States shall remain vested therein.

This agreement shall come into effect on the day on which it is accepted by the Government of Cuba, and shall continue in effect until June 30, 1947, or for an additional period if mutually agreed upon in writing, unless the Congress of either country shall fail to make available the funds necessary for its execution in which case it may be terminated on sixty days' advance written notice by the Government of either country.

WAC

The Cuban Secretary of State to the American Ambassador

[TRANSLATION]

REPUBLIC OF CUBA
MINISTRY OF STATE

No. 1927

HABANA, August 2, 1944

MR. CHARGÉ D'AFFAIRES:

With reference to your Embassy's courteous note, number 632, of July 17 last, and to the Memorandum-Agreement transmitted therewith, relative to the establishment and operation by the Meteorological Service of Cuba and the Weather Bureau of the United States of America, in cooperation of a radiosonde station in Cuba, to be located in the immediate vicinity of Habana, I have the honor to inform Your Excellency that, the matter having been studied by the competent office, the above-mentioned Memorandum-Agreement thereon is considered acceptable in all respects.

Hoping that all matters connected with the aforesaid Memorandum-Agreement may be concluded as soon as possible, to the end that the necessary instruments may be sent soon, in order to begin as soon as possible the service to be provided by the above-mentioned radiosonde station, I avail myself of this opportunity to renew to Your Excellency the assurances of my distinguished consideration.

J. MAÑACH